

What is claimed is:

1. A pledget for use with a surgical staple comprising a plurality of prongs, said pledget comprising:

a member configured to be retained adjacent to a wound site by said staple, said member comprising a base region configured to be at least partially disposed between the plurality of prongs of said staple.

2. The pledget according to claim 1 comprising a plurality of peripheral notches configured to receive said plurality of prongs therein.

3. The pledget according to claim 1 comprising a plurality of peripherally extending tabs configured to be received between said plurality of prongs.

4. The pledget according to claim 1 comprising a plurality of holes in said member, each adapted for receiving one of said plurality of prongs.

5. The pledget according to claim 1 wherein said member comprises a woven or non-woven fabric material.

6. The pledget according to claim 5 wherein said fabric material comprises polyester material.

7. The pledget according to claim 1 wherein said member is polymer sheet.

8. The pledget according to claim 1 wherein said member is bioabsorbable.

9. The pledget according to claim 1 further comprising a physiologically active agent.

10. The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent is adapted to be released over a predetermined time interval.

11. The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent comprises a coating applied to said member.

12. The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said member is impregnated with said physiologically active agent.

13. The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said member is formed from said physiologically active agent.

14. The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent comprises an anti-microbial agent.

15. The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent comprises an antiseptic agent.

16. The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent inhibits intraluminal clotting.

17. The pledget according to claim 9 wherein said physiologically active agent promotes extraluminal clotting.

18. A method for delivering a physiologically active agent to a wound site comprising:

providing a surgical staple;

providing a pledget adapted to be received between said staple and said wound site; and

deploying said staple at said wound site with said pledget disposed between at least a portion of said staple and adjacent said wound site; wherein said pledget comprises a physiologically active agent.

19. The method according to claim 18 further comprising assembling said pledget to said staple positioning said pledget between a plurality of prongs of said staple before deploying said staple at said wound site.

20. The method according to claim 18 wherein said physiologically active agent inhibits infection.

21. The method according to claim 18 wherein said physiological agent promotes extraluminal clotting.

22. The method according to claim 18 wherein said physiologically active agent inhibits intraluminal clotting.

23. The method according to claim 18 comprising coating said pledget with said physiologically active agent, whereby said pledget comprises said physiologically active agent.

24. The method according to claim 18 wherein said pledget comprises a woven or non-woven fabric structure said method comprising impregnating said fabric structure with said physiologically active agent.

25. The method according to claim 18 wherein said physiologically active agent is molded or cast and said pledget is formed from said molded or cast physiologically agent.

26. A method for improving hemostasis at a wound site comprising:
providing a surgical staple configured to at least partially close a wound;
providing a pledget configured to be disposed adjacent to said wound site for facilitating hemostasis;

positioning said pledget between said wound site and at least a portion of said staple; and

deploying said staple at said wound site by engaging tissue adjacent said wound site;

wherein said pledget is disposed between at least a portion of said staple and said wound site.

27. The method according to claim 26 wherein said pledget comprises a physiologically active agent that inhibits intraluminal clotting.

28. The method according to claim 26 wherein said pledget comprises a physiologically active agent that promotes extraluminal clotting.

29. The method according to claim 26 wherein said pledget comprises a physiologically active agent that inhibits infection.

30. A surgical staple comprising:
a plurality of tissue piercing prongs, at least a portion of one of said prongs having a modified surface character.

31. The surgical staple according to claim 30 wherein at least a portion of one of said prongs has a textured surface.

32. The surgical staple according to claim 31 wherein said textured surface is at least one of a sand blasted surface or a bead blasted surface.

33. The surgical staple according to claim 31 wherein said textured surface comprises a textured coating.

34. The surgical staple according to claim 31 wherein said textured surface comprises an etched surface.

35. The surgical staple according to claim 30 wherein at least a portion of one of said prongs as a reduced friction surface.

36. The surgical staple according to claim 35 wherein said reduced friction surface comprises a polished surface.

37. The surgical staple according to claim 35 wherein said reduced friction surface comprises a low friction coating.

38. The surgical staple according to claim 37 wherein said low friction coating is at least one of a silicone coating and a polytetrafluoroethylene coating.

39. A surgical staple comprising:
a plurality of tissue piercing prongs, at least one of said prongs comprising a physiologically active agent.

40. The surgical staple according to claim 39 wherein at least one of said tissue piercing prongs comprises said physiologically active agent as a coating.

41. The surgical staple according to claim 39 wherein said staple comprises said physiological agent disposed in at least one of a groove, a recess, and a hollow of said staple.

42. The surgical staple according to claim 39 wherein said physiologically active agent is configured to migrate out of said surgical staple.

43. The surgical staple according to claim 42 wherein said surgical staple is impregnated with said physiologically active agent.

44. The surgical staple according to claim 39 wherein said physiologically active agent inhibits infection.

45. The surgical staple according to claim 39 wherein said physiologically active agent inhibits intraluminal clotting.

46. The surgical staple according to claim 39 wherein said physiologically active agent promotes extraluminal clotting.

47. The surgical staple according to claim 39 wherein said physiologically active agent is adapted to release over a predetermined period of time.